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PATENT

120E  
9/12/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

<b>In Re Application of:</b>	Flanagan
<b>Application No.:</b>	09/654,987
<b>Filed:</b>	September 5, 2000
<b>For:</b>	Method of Applying a Laser Beam Around the Circumference of a Catheter
<b>Examiner:</b>	Sam Chaun Cua Yao
<b>Group Art Unit:</b>	1733

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Box Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Docket No: S63.2-8765

AMENDMENT

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated May 23, 2002. Please amend the application as follows:

**In the Claims:**

Please replace claims 1 and 27 with the following amended claims:

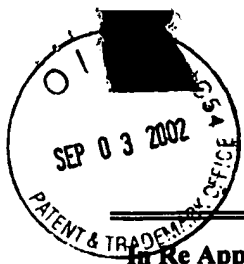
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TC 1700

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1. (Amended) A process for sealing at least one polymeric material to a polymeric catheter tube, comprising the steps of:

over-lapping an end of the at least one polymeric material with an end of the polymeric catheter tube thereby creating an over-lapped portion;

generating at least one annular beam of electromagnetic energy that is at least partially absorbed by at least one of the polymeric material and the polymeric catheter tube at a selected energy wavelength;

controllably directing the annular beam of electromagnetic energy onto the polymeric material to concentrate the energy in a bond site on the over-lapped portion circumscribing the



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TRANSMITTAL LETTER

1. In regard to the above-identified application, we are submitting the attached:  
8 page Amendment; VAS Transmittal Letter; and Postcard.
2. With respect to fees:
  - ☒ No additional fee is required.
  - ☐ Attached is check(s) in the amount of \$
  - ☐ Charge additional fee to our Deposit Account No. 22-0350.
3. **CONDITIONAL PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**  
This conditional petition is being filed along with the papers identified in Item 1 above and provides for the possibility that Applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for a petition and fee for extension of time or for a petition and fee for any other matter petitionable to the Commissioner as required. If any extension of time for the accompanying response is required or if a petition for any other matter is required, by petitioner, Applicant requests that this be considered a petition therefor.
4. Notwithstanding paragraph 2 above, if any additional fees associated with this communication are required and have not otherwise been paid, including any fee associated with the Conditional Petition for Extension of Time, or any request in the accompanying papers for action which requires a fee as a petition to the Commissioner, please charge the additional fees to Deposit Account No. 22-0350. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment associated with this communication to the Deposit Account No. 22-0350.

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VIDAS, ARRETT & STEINKRAUS

Date: August 23, 2002

By:

Brendan C. Babcock  
Brendan C. Babcock  
Registration No. 50,705

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Minnetonka, MN 55343-9185  
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Certificate Under 37 CFR 1.8: I hereby certify that this Transmittal Letter and the paper(s) as described herein, are being deposited in the U.S. Postal Service, as FIRST CLASS MAIL, addressed to Box Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, Washington D.C. 20231, on August 23, 2002.

Rebecca M. Painschab  
Rebecca M. Painschab